REMARKS

The Office Action dated February 26, 2008 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 37, 39, 41, 42, 46-48, 55, 56 and 60-63 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Claims 76-81 have been newly added. No new matter has been added and no new issues are raised which require further consideration or search.

The Office Action indicated that claims 31-33, 35-41, 46 and 64-66 are allowed and claims 43, 52-54, 61 and 63 include allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if amended to be in independent form. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for allowing those claims. However, all of the presently pending claims 31-33, 35-43, 45-56 and 58-81 are in condition for allowance and are submitted for reconsideration.

As a preliminary matter, the Office Action indicated that independent claim 49 was rejected. Claim 49 is a method claim which contains all of the allowable subject matter described on page 8 of the Office Action dated February 26, 2008. In particular, claim 49 recites the allowable subject matter as "cell identity information being stored in a first telecommunication network using a cell identity of a second telecommunication network." Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that independent claim 49 also be allowed. New independent claim 81 is a computer program claim which corresponds to the subject matter recited independent claim 49 and should also be allowed for the reasons stated above.

Claims 31-33, 35-43, 45-51, 55-56, 58-60, 62 and 64-75 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,424,638 to Ray (hereinafter Ray) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,882,844 to Keski-Heikkilä (hereinafter Keski-Heikkilä) or U.S. Patent No. 6,925,074 to Vikberg (hereinafter Vikberg) and U.S. Patent No. 6,289,221 to Ritter (hereinafter Ritter). According to the Office Action, Ray teaches all of the elements of claims 31-33, 35, 37-43, 45-51, 55-56, 58-60, 62 and 64-75 except for teaching using a cell identity information structure of a second telecommunication network. Thus, the Office Action combined the teachings of Ray and Keski-Heikkilä or Vikberg and Ritter to yield all of the elements of claims 31-33, 35, 37-43, 45-51, 55-56, 58-60, 62 and 64-75. The rejection is traversed as being based on references that neither teach nor suggest the combination of features recited in each of claims 31-33, 35, 37-43, 45-51, 55-56, 58-60, 62 and 64-75.

Claim 42, upon which claims 43, 45, 47-48 and 67-69 depend, recites an apparatus that includes a receiver to receive cell identities from cells of a first telecommunications network and a second telecommunication network, wherein cell identities of cells from both the first telecommunications network and second telecommunication networks use the structure of the second telecommunication network. The apparatus further includes a determiner to determine the need to change serving cells, and to initialize the process of changing a serving cell to another cell, and a handover module to provide seamless mobility between the first telecommunications network and the second telecommunication network. The first telecommunications network is a different network from the second telecommunications network.

Claim 55, upon which claims 56, 58-63 and 73-75 depend, recites an apparatus that includes communicating means for communicating with a first telecommunication network and a second telecommunication network, and receiving means for receiving a cell identity information for a cell of the first telecommunication network using a cell identity information structure of the second telecommunication network wherein the first telecommunications network is a different network from the second telecommunications network. The first telecommunications network is a different network from the second telecommunications network

Applicant submits that the cited references of Ray, Keski-Heikkilä, Ritter and Vikberg do not teach or suggest the combination of the elements recited in independent claims 42 and 55. For instance, Ray, Keski-Heikkula, Riiter and Vikberg, individually or combined, fail to teach or suggest, at least, a receiver configured to receive cell identity information for cells of a first telecommunication network and a second telecommunications network, wherein cell identities of cells from both the first telecommunications network and second telecommunications networks use the structure of the second telecommunications network, and where the first and second telecommunications networks are different as recited in independent claims 42 and 45.

The Office Action alleged that Ray and Ritter teach the above noted features of independent claims 42 and 55, and relied mostly on the Abstract and FIG. 1 of Ray, and the Abstract and FIG. 1 of Ritter for support. Applicant disagrees and submits that Ray and Ritter do not teach those features of claims 42 and 55.

The Abstract of Ray discloses a handover procedure initiated by a first MSC which contacts an internet gatekeeper to find another MSC that can accept the call handover. The only "identity" disclosed by Ray is the identity of the handover MSC which is provided to the gatekeeper so that it may be provided to the original MSC to begin the handover procedure. There is no disclosure in Ray that the handing over MSC uses a cell identity information structure used by the receiving MSC. Ray does not disclose the types of cell identities being used from two different networks. Because Ray does not disclose the details of the cell identities used by two different networks, certainly, Ray does not disclose two networks both using a cell identity structure of one of the two networks.

As for Ritter, the Abstract of Ritter discloses frequency re-use among cells closely located in a radio communications network. The Office Action further alleged that two cells may be transmitting two separate beacons to a common location and thus may be the same for that purpose. Regardless of whether two cells are using the same communication protocol or are operating simultaneously, Ritter still fails to teach that a first network and a second network both use the same structured cell identities of one of the two networks. The cell identities are not discussed in Ritter and are certainly not discussed in the manner claimed in claims 42 and 55, which recites, in part, a receiver configured to receive cell identity information for cells of a first telecommunication network and a second telecommunications network, wherein cell identities of cells from both the first telecommunications network and second telecommunications networks use

the structure of the second telecommunications network, and where the first and second telecommunications networks are different.

As for Keski-Heikkilä, Applicant submits that the permanent cell ID does not teach the deficiencies of Ray and Ritter with respect to claims 42 and 55. Referring to column 4, lines 39-46 of Keski-Heikkilä, the global cell identifier is one of two identities recognized by a base station. The permanent base station identity is the other type of identity, which is used to uniquely identify the base station among the other base stations in the network.

The global cell ID teaches away from the subject matter recited in claims 42 and 55. If the global cell ID is used by more than one base station, then it is a common ID that is being used by at least a first and second base station, and is not unique to either base station. If the permanent base station ID is only used by one base station then it is not used by a first and a second base station and is only being used by one base station. Contrary to the teachings of Keski-Heikkilä, claims 42 and 55 recite "cell identities of cells from both the first telecommunications network and second telecommunications networks use the structure of the second telecommunications network, and where the first and second telecommunications networks are different." The "cell identity of cells from the first and second telecommunications networks" is a non-global ID (one belonging to the second network and not the first network) which is being used by a first and second network, and thus cannot be a permanent ID belonging to a single cell. Therefore, the global ID and permanent ID disclosed in Keski-Heikkilä fails to cure the deficiencies of Ray and Ritter with respect to claims 42 and 55.

Vikberg also fails to cure the deficiencies of Ray, Ritter and Keski-Heikkilä with respect to claims 42 and 55. Vikberg discloses a mobile telecommunications network with an access network portion having several base station systems that can communicate with a core network portion. The base station systems are adapted to communicate with mobile terminals over a licensed public mobile network air interface and with the core network portion over a predetermined network interface. Vikberg discloses that a mobile station is capable of operating in a GSM network and communicating with a core network 20. The dual network access provides the mobile station with access to its radio GSM network or to other networks via a radio interface. Vikberg does not disclose "cell identities of cells from both the first telecommunications network and second telecommunications networks use the structure of the second telecommunications network, and where the first and second telecommunications networks are different", as recited, in part, in claims 42 and 55.

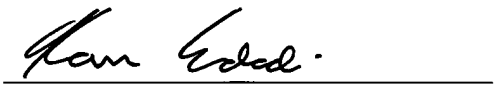
Therefore, for at least the reasons stated above, Applicant submits that Ray, Keski-Heikkilä, Ritter and/or Vikberg do not teach all of the subject matter recited in independent claims 42 and 55 and hence, dependent claims 45, 47-51, 56 and 58-75 dependent thereon.

As noted previously, claims 42, 45, 47-51, 55, 56, 58-60, 62 and 67-81 recite subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art references cited in the Office Action. It is therefore respectfully requested that all of claims 42, 45, 47-51, 55, 56, 58-60, 62 and 67-81 be allowed, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicant's undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Additional Claims Transmittal
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